

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 EB-11 FAA-00 DOTE-00

SAJ-01 MBFR-04 NIC-01 /147 W
----- 066849

R 261104Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5156

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USUN NEW YORK 404

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2284

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CZ, AU, GW, US

SUBJ: CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS WITH WEST

REF: VIENNA 7358 AND 7499

1. AUSTRIAN LEGATION OFFICER TELLS US THAT MINISTER SCHLUMBERGER CALLED ON CZECHOSLOVAK MFA OFFICIAL SEPTEMBER 25 TO DELIVER PROTEST NOTE ON SECOND AUSTRIAN AIRCRAFT (POWERED GLIDER) FORCED DOWN BY CZECHS SEPTEMBER 2. MFA OFFICIAL REFUSED TO ACCEPT NOTE OR ORAL PROTEST AND, IN REPLY TO SCHLUMBERGER'S QUESTION, STATED THIS WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT.

2. LEGATION OFFICER COMMENTED THAT THIS SEEMED TO CAST DOUBT ON POSSIBILITY OF MEETING BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER KIRSCHLAEGER AND CHNOUPEK AT UNGA, WHICH HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED UNTIL NOW. OUR SOURCE ALSO CONTRASTED CZECH ACTIONS RE AUSTRIAN AIRCRAFT WITH EXTREMELY LOW-KEY AUSTRIAN DEMARCHE AFTER AUSTRIAN RADAR DETECTED INTRUSION INTO AUSTRIA BY CZECHOSLOVAK AIRCRAFT IN JUNE.
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3. ALL IN ALL, APPARENT PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN OVERALL CZECHOSLOVAK-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS HAVE GONE FROM BRIGHT SOME MONTHS AGO TO VERY DULL AT THIS MOMENT. GIVEN ALSO CZECHOSLOVAK STAND ON WEST BERLIN WHICH HAS PUT IN LIMBO POSSIBILITY OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH FRG, WE REMAIN ONLY MAJOR WESTERN COUNTRY WITH WHICH (VIA CURRENT CLAIMS NEGOTIATIONS AND SCHEDULED EXCHANGES TALKS) CZECHS AT MOMENT HAVE CHANCE OF SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING RELATIONS ON OFFICIAL PLANE.

WORTZEL

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30 JUN 2005

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